Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Invista Seaford Plant (Formerly: Dupont Seaford Nylon Plant)

400 Woodland Road Seaford, DE 19973-4399 Congressional District 1 EPA ID #: DED002348845 Last Updated: June 29, 2005

Current Progress at the Site

DuPont has made extensive progress in controlling human health risks and investigating the nature and extent of contamination at the Invista Seaford site. The Invista Seaford site has been the subject of several investigations; some required by the RCRA Corrective Action Consent Order, some undertaken voluntarily by DuPont, and some required by other regulatory programs. EPA has evaluated information from all studies of the site. Investigations conducted to date include:

- Phase II RCRA Facility Investigation 2003
- Ash Pond Sampling and Analysis. DuPont Environmental Remediation Services. 1998.
- Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation. 1995.
- Phase 1 Hydrogeologic Study. DuPont Environmental Remediation Services, 1993.
- Wetlands Investigation and Flora and Fauna Communities Assessment. Dynamac Corporation, 1992
- Drummed Waste Storage Pad Closure Sampling. Environmental Resources Management.
- Groundwater Assessment. DuPont Engineering, 1991.
- Aquifer Evaluation Supplement to Annual Hydrologic Report. DuPont Engineering, 1989.
- RCRA Facility Assessment. A.T. Kearney Inc., 1986.
- Preliminary Assessment Report. A.T. Kearney Inc., 1985.
- Annual Powerhouse Ash Landfill Hydrologic Reports. 1981- present.

DuPont has implemented the following interim measures at the site:

- Installing a liner under the coal pile to prevent low pH and metals contamination of groundwater from coal pile runoff.
- Isolating contaminated production wells from the site's drinking water system.
- Controlling access to areas with exposed landfill debris.
- Regular inspection of landfill covers to ensure that the waste does not become exposed via erosion of the covers.

On February 14, 2002, EPA approved the environmental indicator which identifies that current human exposures are under control. In the Fall 2002, Dupont implemented a Phase II RFI investigation to assist in determining the need for remediation at the site. Results were reported in early May 2003 and show that there is no threat to human health. On September 29, 2003, DNREC approved the environmental indicator for migration of contaminated groundwater under control and identified issues related to groundwater requiring further evaluation. In January 2005, Dupont submitted a revised RCRA Facility Investigation Phase II Final Report. DNREC approved the Final Report on January 31, 2005. In May, 2005, Dupont submitted a Focused Corrective Measures Study Report.

Site Description

The property is bordered by the Nanticoke River to the east and by the Pennsylvania Railroad to the north. Two branches of the Nanticoke River flow east along the facility's south and southwest property lines. Invista manufactures textile nylon, bulk continuous fiber nylon, and staple nylon at the Seaford Plant. An on-site coal burning power plant provides the facility with electricity.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are now being conducted under the direction of DNREC with the assistance of EPA Region 3.

Contaminants

Wastes generated include fly ash, corrosives, ignitables, spent halogenated solvents, and discarded commercial chemical products. Groundwater underlying Invista Seaford contains low levels of metals and volatile organic compounds and low pH. Metals are also present in the sediment of an on-site drainage ditch and in the sediment of the Nanticoke River down stream from the site. The primary metal of concern in groundwater and sediment is arsenic. The source of the arsenic is most likely coal ash generated by the site's power plant. DNREC has identified a coal pile adjacent to the power plant as the source of low groundwater pH. DuPont has identified an old landfill as the source of the volatile organic compounds.

Community Interaction

The Invista Seaford Facility borders the Nanticoke River just south of the community of Seaford. Plans for interaction with the community are under development.

Institutional Controls

DuPont has included a proposal for implementation of groundwater management zones as Institutional Controls in its Focused Corrective Measure Study Report.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

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